



*Connecticut Chapter*  
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Martin Mador, Legislative Chair

Planning and Development Committee  
March 18, 2013

Testimony In Opposition to  
SB 459 AAC Local Control Over Coastal Areas

I am Martin Mador, 130 Highland Ave., Hamden, CT 06518. I am the volunteer Legislative Chair for the Connecticut Chapter of the Sierra Club. I hold a Masters of Environmental Management degree from the Yale School of Forestry and Environmental Studies.

Regulations governing seawalls and structures abutting the shoreline are in place to protect natural resources and to provide an appropriate guidance for erecting structures. Eliminating the need to obtain permits based on these regulations simply has no justification. Allowing construction without following these guidelines simply puts the new structures at risk.

But worse, eliminating the permitting process removes our ability to protect coastal natural resources. It destroys our ability to effectively protect resources, and would establish a very destructive precedent that regulations and permitting are dispensable.

The Sierra Club strongly advises a vote against this bill.